IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A powder comprising particles with a core of titanium dioxide and a coating of silicon dioxide, wherein
   - the silicon dioxide is present in an amount of between 0.5 and 40 wt.%,
   - the particles have a BET surface of between 5 and 300 m^2/g, and
   - the particles are primary particles that have a coating of silicon dioxide and a core of titanium dioxide.

2. (Previously Presented) The powder according to claim 1, wherein the primary particles can grow together to form aggregates.

3. (Previously Presented) An aggregate of particles comprising the powder according to claim 2 and wherein the primary particles have grown together via the silicon dioxide coating.

4. (Previously Presented) The powder according to claim 1, wherein the silicon dioxide is present in the powder in an amount of 1 to 20 wt.%.

5. (Previously Presented) The powder according to claim 1, wherein the titanium dioxide core has a ratio of the rutile/anatase modifications of 1:99 to 99:1.

6. (Previously Presented) The powder according to claim 1, wherein an aqueous dispersion of the powder with a solids content of 3 wt.% has an absorption of at least 95% at 320 nm and an absorption of at least 90% at 360 nm.

7. (Previously Presented) The powder according to claim 1, which has a photoactivity index of less than 0.5.

8. (Previously Presented) The powder according to claim 1, which has an isoelectric point at a pH value of between 1 and 4.

9. (Previously Presented) The powder according to claim 1, wherein the BET surface is between 40 and 120 m^2/g.

10. (Currently Amended) A process for the production of the powder according to claim 1, comprising
mixing a vaporisable silicon compound and a vaporisable titanium compound corresponding to ~~asubsequently~~ a subsequently desired ratio of SiO_2 and TiO_2 in the powder ~~product~~,
vaporizing the mixture at a temperature of 200°C or less
transferring the vaporized mixture in an inert gas stream together with hydrogen and air or with oxygen-enriched air into a central pipe of a burner forming a reaction mixture,
igniting the reaction mixture at the mouth of the burner in the presence of additional, secondary air,
combusting the reaction mixture in a cooled flame pipe generating gaseous reaction products, removing the titanium dioxide powder coated with silicon dioxide from the gaseous reaction products, wherein the ratio of

- ~~primary~~ air to secondary air is greater than 0.3,
- ~~core~~ hydrogen to secondary air is greater than 1,
- vaporisable titanium dioxide compound ~~precursor~~ to secondary air is greater than 0.5.

11. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein titanium tetrachloride is the titanium compound.

12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein silicon tetrachloride is the silicon compound.

13. (Previously Presented) A sunscreen agent comprising the powder according to claim 1 in an amount of between 0.01 and 25 wt.% based on the weight of the sunscreen agent; and one or more of a UV-absorbing pigment, chemical UV filter, and a solvent.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 10, further comprising freeing the gaseous reaction product from adhering hydrogen chloride following the removal of the titanium dioxide powder coated with silicon dioxide from the gaseous reaction products.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of making a dispersion, comprising mixing the powder according to claim 1 with a solvent.